



**MassHighway Invites You to a
Public Workshop for the
Route 2 Concord Rotary Reconstruction Project**

Tuesday, June 3, 2008 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Peabody Middle School Gymnasium
1231 Old Marlboro Road, Concord**

The purpose of the workshop is to gain input from Town officials, the public, users of the area, and other interested individuals. The format is an "Open House" and you are invited to come view information about the alternatives, speak with MassHighway staff and consultants, ask questions one-on-one with the Project officials, and submit comments.

MassHighway has been making targeted improvements along the Route 2 corridor at Crosby's Corner and from Sudbury Road to Emerson Hospital. The agency worked with the Route 2 Corridor Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) and other agencies, during an earlier feasibility study phase of the rotary reconstruction project, which resulted in the CAC recommending that three alternatives advance to the Environmental Notification Form (ENF). Now, a more detailed evaluation and environmental review process of the three alternatives will take place leading to a preferred alternative later in 2008, and submittal of the Environmental Assessment (EA) / Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) early in 2009.

The purpose of the refined alternative will be to improve traffic flow and safety, minimize impacts to the environment, and respond to the comments raised on the ENF. In addition to traffic and safety improvements, this project presents an opportunity to also reconnect neighborhoods and incorporate the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail crossing, wildlife corridors, improved water and air quality and maintain or improve the aesthetics of the area.

The input received at this workshop will be used to advance the alternatives to a preferred alternative, which incorporates the project goals and the community's vision. Additional meetings will be scheduled later in 2008 to review the preferred alternative and collect more input from the public.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Grace Arthur, MHD Project Manager, at 617-973-8251.



Route 2 Concord Rotary Reconstruction Project

Background

The Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) is proposing transportation improvements to Route 2 at the Concord Rotary in Concord. The Concord Rotary is at the confluence of Route 2, Route 2A/119, Barrett's Mill Road and Commonwealth Avenue. The purpose of the project is to improve the operating efficiency and safety of Route 2 within the project area. In order to address existing deficiencies, the proposed transportation improvement project involves grade separating the local and regional traffic movements that currently feed into the Concord Rotary. The intent of the proposed grade separation is to reduce delays and improve air quality by reducing congestion, enhance safety by reducing conflicting movements, improve local access by separating regional and local traffic flows, and provide for pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

An ENF was filed by MassHighway in February, 2003. The ENF identified three alternative designs (see attachments) that were the product of an alternatives analysis by MassHighway and the Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS), and subsequent review by the Route 2 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The Route 2 CAC is comprised of representatives of the Concord, Acton and Lincoln Boards of Selectmen, State Senators and State Representatives representing study area communities, representatives from the Massachusetts State Police, Massachusetts Correctional Institute, Executive Office of Public Safety, and local citizens.

The Secretary's Certificate on the ENF was issued on April 14, 2003. The Certificate acknowledged a mandatory requirement for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and directed further analysis of the three alternatives (3,5,& 7) presented in the ENF to determine a preferred alternative. The Scope contained within the Secretary's Certificate identified wetlands, drainage/water quality, traffic, air quality, growth/regional planning, land takings, agricultural land, open space and recreation, vegetation, historic resources, visual and aesthetic impacts, hazardous waste, construction period impacts and noise as specific resource areas requiring further analysis, in addition to requiring that mitigation for unavoidable impacts be identified and comments submitted by interested parties be formally addressed as part of the draft EIR.

Current Project Status

The current project study area limits (see attached figure) have not changed significantly since the filing of the ENF and issuance of the Secretary's Certificate. The following items will now be addressed as a result of the scope contained in the Secretary's



Route 2 Concord Rotary Reconstruction Project

Background

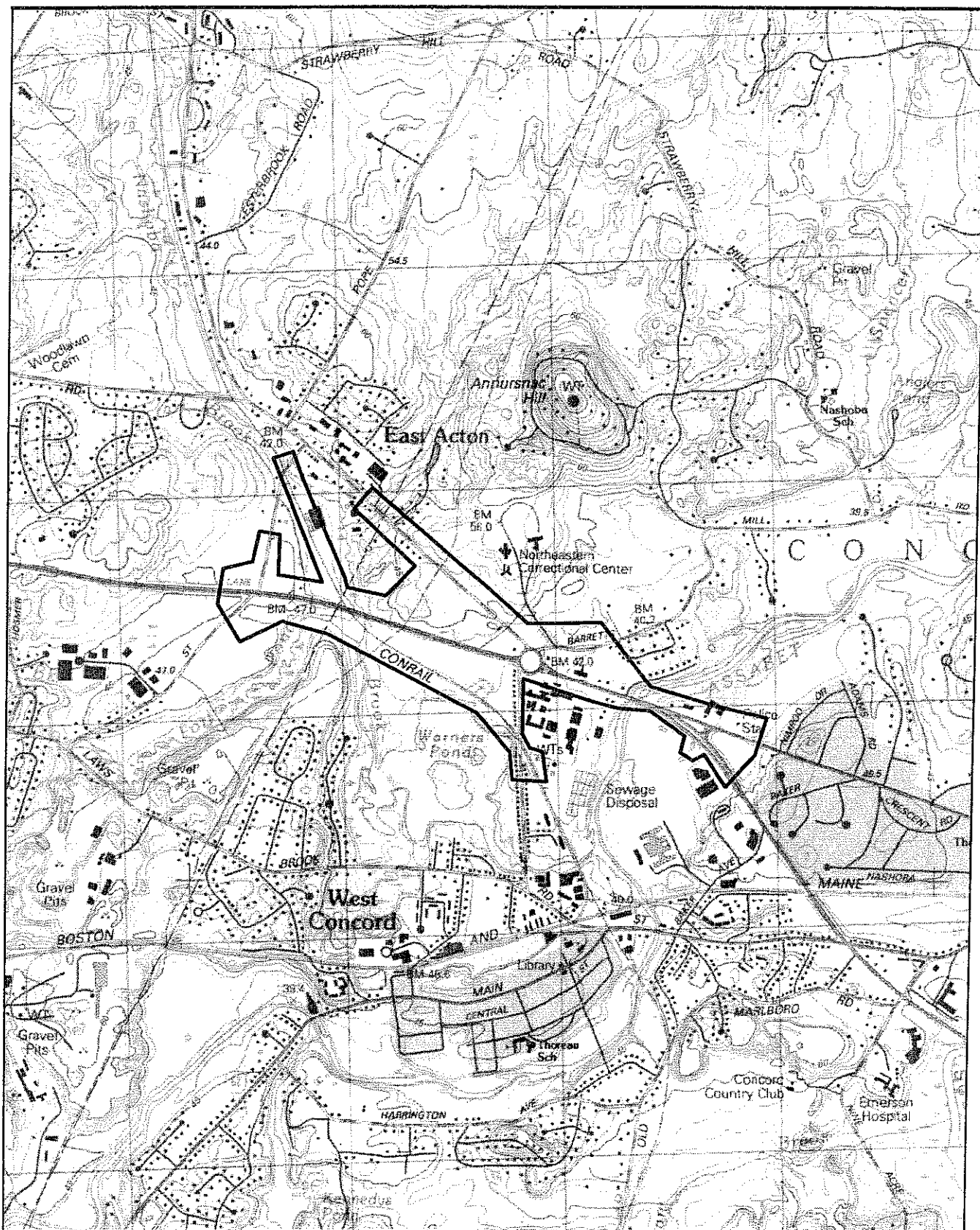
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Data provided by MassGIS.
 Portion of Maynard and Concord USGS 7.5'
 quadrangles. Date of maps: 1987

0 1,000 2,000
 Feet



Route 2 Reconstruction at the Concord Rotary

Figure 1 Site Locus



Project Limits

February 22, 2008